

REMARKS

Amendments to the Specification and Abstract

The title has been amended to recite: "A POWER-ON DEVICE AND METHOD FOR CONTROLLABLY POWERING A CIRCUIT SYSTEM WITH AN ADAPTOR OR WITH A BATTERY".

In the summary of the invention section of the specification, paragraph [0006] has been amended to recite "*When voltage of the input terminal is above the threshold voltage, the voltage detector outputs the control signal having a second level to enable another path ~~which the circuit system is supplied by the battery until charged full by the adaptor~~ such that the circuit system is coupled to the battery and it is the battery that supplies the circuit system*".

The Abstract has been amended to recite: "*A power-on method for a circuit system having a power supply terminal and a charge input terminal, comprising: coupling the power supply terminal to a battery and the charge input terminal to an adaptor; detecting a voltage of the battery; when the voltage of the battery is below a threshold, turning on a second switch such that the adaptor supplies the circuit system through the charge input terminal and the second switch to start the circuit system and charge the battery; when the voltage of the battery is above the threshold, turning off the second switch, and turning on a third switch, such that the charge input terminal is coupled to the battery through the third switch, and the circuit system is powered by the battery; and outputting a switch signal to control a first switch coupled between the adaptor and the charge input terminal for controlling charge capacity*".

Amendments of the claims

The language of claims 7 and 8 has been clarified. Claims 14 and 16 have been canceled without prejudice. The subject-matter of claims 14 and 16 has been

incorporated in claim 17. The dependency of claims 13 and 15 has been amended consistently with the amendments of claim 17.

New claim 18 recites the method of claim 7, further comprising "*controlling the second and third switches by a control signal; and while the circuit system is powered by the battery: if the switch signal turns on the first switch, the adaptor charges the battery; and if the switch signal turns off the first switch, the adaptor stops charging the battery*". These features are supported by the application as filed, for example Fig. 1 and the corresponding portion of the description.

No new matter has been added.

Applicants expressly reserve the right to pursue any matter cancelled from the claims or any cancelled claim in this application or in any derivative thereof.

Allowable subject matter

Applicants acknowledge with gratitude the Examiner's indication of allowance as to claims 2-6 and the indication of allowability of claim 17. Pursuant to the suggestions of the Examiner, claim 17 has been rewritten in independent form including all the limitations of base claims 14 and 16.

Rejection under 35 U.S.C. 102

Claims 7 and 8 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(e) as being anticipated by U.S. Patent Application having the publication number 2001/0028571 to Hanada; Claims 13 and 14 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(e) as being anticipated by U.S. Patent Application having the publication number 2004/0046528 to Soyer. Applicants respectfully disagree.

Claim 7

Applicants note that Hanada discloses a system for using a battery having an overcurrent protective device, and in particular a system that allows charging a capacitor with said overcurrent-protected battery. Paragraph [0016] of Hanada recites:

“According to an aspect of the present invention, a power supply circuit is provided, which is connected to a battery having an overcurrent protective device, the power supply circuit including a capacitor, a first switch provided in a primary path for connecting the battery with the capacitor, a second switch provided in an alternative path for connecting the battery with the capacitor, a voltage detector which detects a terminal voltage across the capacitor, and a charge control device which controls a switching operation of the first switch to intermittently charge the capacitor with the battery via the primary path in the case where the terminal voltage V_c across the capacitor is smaller than a predetermined threshold value. The charge control device switches the primary path to the alternative path to continuously charge the capacitor with the battery via the alternative path in the case where the terminal voltage across the capacitor exceeds the predetermined threshold value”.

Applicants respectfully submit that the Examiner has failed to show what features exactly of Hanada read on the features recited in claim 7. Applicants note that the above excerpt of Hanada recites detecting a terminal voltage across a capacitor, whereas claim 7 recites detecting a voltage of a battery. Applicants therefore assume that the Examiner opines that the capacitor of Hanada reads on the battery of claim 7, and that the power supplied by the battery of Hanada to eventually charge the capacitor reads on the power supplied through an adaptor to eventually charge the battery of claim 7. Applicants disagree with the Examiner and note that in Hanada the battery is continuously connected to the capacitor when the terminal voltage across the capacitor is above the predetermined threshold value, and alternatively disconnected from / connected to the capacitor (intermittent charge) when the terminal voltage across the capacitor is below the predetermined threshold value.

Applicants note that Hanada thus teaches away from a method as recited in claim 7, and in particular wherein the adaptor is connected to the battery (second switch turned on): “when the voltage of the battery is below a threshold voltage”; and

wherein the adaptor is disconnected from the capacitor ("*second switch turned off*") "*when the voltage of the battery is above a threshold voltage*". Applicants therefore submit that at least in view of the above, claim 7 as pending is patentable over Harada.

Further, Applicants note that claim 7 as amended substantially recites the features of claim 17 deemed allowable by the Examiner in section 9 of the Action. In particular, claim 7 recites: "*when the voltage of the battery is above the threshold, turning off the second switch, and turning on a third switch, such that the charge input terminal is coupled to the battery through the third switch, and the circuit system is powered by the battery*".

Applicants therefore respectfully submit that claim 7 as amended is patentable over Harada.

Claim 8

Claim 8 depends on claim 7. Applicants respectfully submit that at least in view of its dependency, claim 8 is patentable over Harada.

Claims 13 and 14

Claim 14 has been cancelled without prejudice; and claim 13 has been made dependent on claim 17 after claim 17 has been rewritten in independent form so as to be allowable. Applicants respectfully submit that at least in view of its dependency, amended claim 13 is patentable over the cited art.

Rejection under 35 U.S.C. 103

Claims 9-11 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Hanada in view of U.S. Patent No. 6,744,698 to Koyama; and claims 15-16 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Soyer in view of U.S. Patent No. 6,744,698 to Koyama. Applicants respectfully disagree

Claims 9-11

Claims 9-11 depend on claim 7. Applicants respectfully note that the Examiner has failed to show that any combination of Hanada and Koyama, if motivated, would have led one of ordinary skill in the art to a method as recited in claim 7, and in particular as recited in claim 7 as amended. Accordingly Applicants respectfully submit that claim 7 as amended is patentable over Hanada in view of Koyama, and that dependent claims 9-11 are also patentable over Hanada in view of Koyama.

Claims 15 and 16

Claim 16 has been cancelled without prejudice; and claim 15 has been made dependent on claim 17 after claim 17 has been rewritten in independent form so as to be allowable. Applicants respectfully submit that at least in view of its dependency, amended claim 15 is patentable over the cited art.

* * *

In view of the above, Applicants submit that the application is now in condition for allowance and respectfully urge the Examiner to pass this case to issue.

The Commissioner is authorized to charge any additional fees that may be required or credit overpayment to deposit account no. 12-0415. In particular, if this response is not timely filed, the Commissioner is authorized to treat this response as including a petition to extend the time period pursuant to 37 CFR 1.136(a) requesting an extension of time of the number of months necessary to make this response timely filed and the petition fee due in connection therewith may be charged to deposit account no. 12-0415.

I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited with the United States Post Office with sufficient postage as first class mail in an envelope addressed to: Mail Stop Amendment, Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450 on

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(Date of Transmission)

Shannon Tinsley
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(Signature)

12/28/2005
(Date)

Respectfully submitted,



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